HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life   Mt 28:20a

Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism

Talking about
The Sacrament of Baptism

356 **How does the Holy Spirit use the Word and Sacrament to keep you?**

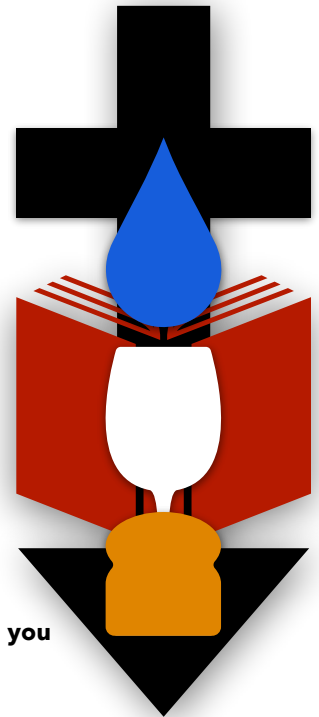The Holy Spirit keeps me by helping me to see my sin and helping me to see more clearly what Christ has done for me.

357 **Can a baptized person fall away from God?**

Yes, a baptized person can fall away from God by resisting or ignoring the Holy Spirit and by neglecting prayer, the Bible, and the Lord's Supper.

1 Timothy 1:18b-19a **"… that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience."**

2 Timothy 4:3-4 **"For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths."**

Hebrews 3:12 **"Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God."**

358 **How does the Holy Spirit restore the person who has fallen from baptismal grace?**

The Holy Spirit restores all those who repent of sin and believe the promises that God has given.

1 John 1:9 **"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

Isaiah 55:6-7 **"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."**

Revelation 3:20 **"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."**

359 **Must this person be baptized again?**

No, God has not gone back on His Word. By confession of sin a person may return to fellowship with God.

Romans 3:3-4a **"What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means!"**

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version